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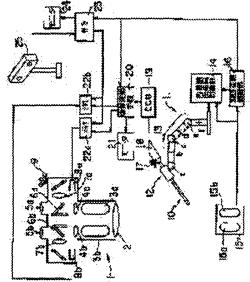
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(54) ENDOSCOPIC OBSERVATION SYSTEM AND ENDOSCOPE HOLDER

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To prevent damage to living tissue due to the movement of an endoscope by properly controlling the held state of the endoscope when the observing direction of the endoscope is varied or when an inadvertent force applys on the endoscope.

SOLUTION: This endoscopic observation system includes an endoscope 10 capable of observation in a plurality of directions, an observing direction changing means 15a for changing the observing direction of the endoscope 10, an endoscope holder 11 movably holding the endoscope 10 and having the function to fix the endoscope 10 in a certain position, an observing direction detecting means 16 for detecting the observing direction of the endoscope 10, and a control means 14 for controlling the holding state of the endoscope holder 10 according to the result of detection by the observing direction detecting means 16.



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